

REMARKS

Claims 1-4, 6-15, 17, 19 and 22-25 stand rejected under 35 USC 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement.

In particular, the Examiner states that the uses of the expressions “single structure” and “wherein the first dimension and the second dimension are created simultaneously in different portion of the single structure” are not supported by the written description. To clarify the claims and to facilitate the prosecution, Applicant has amended claims 1-4, 6, 7, 9, 12, 13, 17, 19, and 22-25. Claim 34 is new and supported by Figure 1 and paragraphs [0019]-[0021]. The claims above no longer use the expressions that the Examiner points out, and Applicant accordingly requests that this rejection be withdrawn.

In addition, the Examiner states the use of the expression “the patterned mask” found in claim 17 is without a proper antecedent basis. Applicant has amended claim 17 to correct the informality. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that this rejection be withdrawn.

Claims 1-4, 6-15, 17, 19 and 22-25 stand rejected under 35 USC 102(e) as being anticipated by Beebe. Applicant has amended the claims, and claim 1 now recites as follows:

1. A method of forming a structure attached to a micro-fluidic channel, comprising:
introducing a solidifiable fluid into a micro-fluidic channel,
wherein the solidifiable fluid comprises a binding material;
introducing a focusing fluid into the micro-fluidic channel;
hydrodynamically focusing the solidifiable fluid using the focusing fluid; and
solidifying a portion of the hydrodynamically focused solidifiable fluid by
selectively exposing the portion to an electromagnetic radiation; and
forming a structure.

In other words, claim 1 now recites forming a structure attached to a micro-fluidic channel by solidifying a solidifiable fluid comprising binding materials with the use of an electromagnetic

radiation and hydrodynamic focusing. Beebe does not disclose solidifying a solidifiable fluid comprising a binding material as claimed. Also, the hydrogels disclosed by Beebe are functional polymers and do not solidify into a solid structure attached to the micro-fluidic channel as claimed.

Claim 19 as amended recites as follows:

19. A method of forming a structure attached to a micro-fluidic channel, comprising:
introducing a solidifiable fluid and a focusing fluid into a hydrodynamic focusing system having a micro-fluidic channel,
wherein the solidifiable fluid comprises dissolvable nanoparticles;
hydrodynamically focusing the solidifiable fluid with the focusing fluid within the micro-fluidic channel; and
solidifying a portion of the hydrodynamically focused solidifiable fluid by selectively exposing the portion to an electromagnetic radiation to form a structure.

Claim 19 now recites forming a structure by solidifying a solidifiable fluid comprising dissolvable nanoparticles. Beebe does not disclose solidifying a solidifiable fluid containing dissolvable nanoparticles. The hydrogels disclosed by Beebe are not solidifiable fluids and do not contain dissolvable nanoparticles to form solid permeating structures as claimed. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that the anticipation rejection be withdrawn as to all pending claims.

In view of the above, each of the presently pending claims in this application is in immediate condition for allowance. Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to withdraw the outstanding rejections of the claims and to pass this application to issue. If it is determined that a telephone conference would expedite the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number given below.

In the event the U.S. Patent and Trademark office determines that an extension and/or other relief is required, Applicant petitions for any required relief including extensions of time and authorizes the Commissioner to charge the cost of such petitions and/or other fees due in connection with the filing of this document to **Deposit Account No. 03-1952** referencing docket no. **070702005600**.

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Respectfully submitted,

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